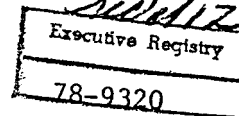


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9 JUN 1978

OLC #78-2261

MFR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Debrief of Testimony Before the House International
Relations Committee, 8 June 1978

1. I briefed the Committee on the evidence we have about Cuban participation in the Katangan invasion of Zaire. I had no other people present from the Executive department on the grounds that I wanted to minimize the number of people exposed and to ensure there were no controversies between who leaked if there were a leak.

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2. I gave the testimony basically in accordance with the outline with a new preamble that emphasized the seriousness of the leaks we have been facing and a new section in the middle inserted at the top of page 9 pointing out that [] weren't likely to be any more "hard" evidence in this case.

3. In the question period the following issues came up:

a. Representative Diggs took a dig at my reported meetings with Senator Clark, reported briefings with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee without briefing their committee, and our lack of initiative in coming forward with information that would be of use to them. He specifically said that I had recently written him a letter and promised to do better but that "we'd heard that before."

b. Representative Fraser asked whether there were disagreements within the Intelligence Community on this assessment. He, in a thoughtful way, said he was concerned that the President might get out in front of the intelligence Director in making a strong statement and then the Director would be in a difficult position not to come forward and justify that statement. I indicated that there were not particular disagreements within the Intelligence Community on this one and that I intended to have the fortitude to stand up and tell the President if he were out in front of the facts.

c. Representative Meyner asked whether we had good photographic information about the FNLC camps in Angola. I had to waffle on this one, simply saying that there were a lot of camps up there but the difficulty was telling whose were which. I'd like to know whether we really have spotted Chicapa and other training camps in that area of Angola.

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d. Representative Lagomarsino asked about the relationship between the FNLA and the FNLC. Were they fighting with each other? Were they in contact? I really couldn't answer that one.

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f. Representative Studds asked why there had been no reports to the International Relations Committee under the Hughes-Ryan Amendment. There was a lot of embarrassment here as Chairman Zablocki and I both tried to answer the question without answering it. Zablocki mentioned that last December they'd called for a meeting and sent out notices and that Studds' representative had come to the meeting but they had made it for members only. Studds didn't remember anything about it and wanted to see the call notice.

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h. Congressman Whalen asked what the situation was with the Katangan gendarmes when the Portuguese were in control of Angola and repeated the question of the FNLA vs. the FNLC.

i. Representative Cavanaugh wanted to know precisely which of the sources I had cited to him the President knew about before he made his statement. I said I declined to answer that. I thought that was part of the privacy of the Executive Branch deliberation process.

j. Representative Solarz asked if we had any questions we'd like him to ask Castro next Monday when he's in Havana.

Rep. Solarz drove hard on the issue of why we would give more detailed source information to the intelligence committees than to the international relations committees. Chairman Zablocki said that that was because they had different rules and the other members of the Congress couldn't have access. Solarz thought that was a very reasonable point but then simply suggested that we go off the record so that no other member of Congress could have access if I told the source data to the International Relations Committee. I held my position that we had to keep the numbers down and if I were to tell the same full information to all committees, I would end up telling less information to everybody.

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k. Rep. Solarz asked about how many Katangans there were altogether. I said 5,000 to 7,000. I'd like to have that checked.

There were many other questions which I didn't take notes on or don't recall.

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STANSFIELD TURNER
Director

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